

# TCEQ Stormwater Investigations

A General Overview





## TCEQ Stormwater Authorizations

#### General Permits

- Construction General Permit (CGP) TXR150000
  - Effective March 5, 2018
  - Expires March 5, 2023
- Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) TXR050000
  - Effective August 14, 2016
  - Expires August 14, 2021
- Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) General Permit TXR040000
  - Effective December 13, 2013
  - Expires December 13, 2018
- John Graves Scenic Riverway General Permit TXG500000
  - Effective April 7, 2014
  - Expires April 7, 2019

#### Individual Permits

- Phase I MS<sub>4</sub> Authorizations
- TXDOT Statewide Permit

## TCEQ Stormwater Investigations

#### Comprehensive Compliance Investigations

- Scheduled
- 24 hours to 14 day notification

#### Focused Investigations

- Scheduled; 24 hours to 14 day notification
- Specific to MS4s
- Focuses on one or more minimum control measures

#### Reconnaissance Investigations

- Unscheduled
- Typically, complaint driven

#### Follow-Up Investigations

• Record Review and/or on-site

## Documenting Violations: TCEQ Enforcement Initiation Criteria

#### Category A – Notice of Enforcement

- Unauthorized Operation (including failure to renew authorization)
- Unauthorized Discharge with Documented Impact
- Failure to achieve final stabilization after a Notice of Termination has been filed
- Repeat Category B violations
- Three-peat Category C violations

#### Category B – Notice of Violation (NOV)

- Complete Failure
- Unauthorized Operation

#### Category C - NOV

Partial Failure

#### Area of Concern

- Category C violation
- Violation can be corrected within 14 calendar days
- No impact to human health and or environment

## Common CGP Violations

#### Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) Issues

- Failure to clearly define operator roles and responsibilities.
- Failure to update the site map as the project evolves; failure to identify all required information.
- Failure to document dates of major grading activities; temporary or permanent cessation of construction activities on a portion of a site; initiation of stabilization measures; and corrective action as a result of a site inspection
- Failure to certify and sign a compliant inspection report.
- Failure to document modifications or changes in the SWP3 related to existing BMPs, implementation schedule, operator duties
- Failure to detail a dewatering plan in the SWP<sub>3</sub> to explain how the captured stormwater will be treated prior to discharge.

## Common CGP Violations

#### Common On-Site Issues

- Failure to install and maintain protective measures or structural controls.
  - Concrete Wash Out
  - Silt Fence
  - Inlet Protection
  - Rock Gabions
  - Erosion Controls (temporary and permanent)
  - Stabilized Construction Entrance
  - Dewatering Treatment
- Failure to implement BMPs such as pollution control measures.
  - Trash containment
  - Street sweeping
- Failure to post Construction Site Notice
- Failure to maintain SWP3 on-site

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## Common MSGP Violations

#### **SWP3** Issues

- Failure to maintain a drainage area site map and/or identify all required information.
- Failure to conduct employee training and/or education

### Common MSGP Violations

#### **Common On-Site Issues**

- Failure to perform required monitoring and sampling
  - Quarterly visual monitoring of outfalls
  - Periodic routine inspections of the site
  - Annual numeric effluent monitoring (hazardous metals) and analysis
  - Semi-annual benchmark monitoring and analysis
  - Annual comprehensive compliance evaluation of SWP3 and site conditions
- Failure to implement BMPs and Good Housekeeping Measures

## Common MS<sub>4</sub> Violations

- Failure to implement a measurable goal or best management practice (BMP) defined in the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP)
- Failure to complete the goal or BMP within the approved implementation schedule as defined in the SWMP
- Failure to submit an annual report or a concise annual report
- Failure to submit a Notice of Change when required
- Failure to demonstrate how a goal or BMP was measured to be successful or implemented
- Failure to document inspections OR Failure to adequately conduct inspections
- Failure to develop an adequate MS4 system map
- Failure to retain documentation from employee training

## Common MS<sub>4</sub> Violations

- Failure to create/develop adequate ordinances
- Failure to document inspections/proof of oversight for contracted projects/services
- Failure to implement BMPs during MS4 Operation and Maintenance (O&M)
- Failure to document inspections of high-priority facilities (Phase II Levels 3 & 4)
- Failure to implement adequate spill response measures at high-priority facilities
- Failure to conduct dry weather screening (MS4 PH II Level 4)
- Failure to identify priority areas (MS4 PH II Level 4)
- Failure to create/retain comprehensive list of active construction sites (MS4 PH II Levels 3 & 4)



## **Contact Information**

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